

REMARKS

Claims 46-49 have been cancelled. The independent claims have been amended to recite that the difference between the refractive index of the resin and the refractive index of the particles is less than one; support for this amendment is found on page 12 of the specification. None of the references of record teach or suggest the use of particles having such a characteristic because none of the references recognize the importance or possibility of minimizing haze (maximizing clarity) of a coating composition while also improving the mar resistance thereof. Support for the other amendments is found at page 7, lines 9-11; page 8, lines 4-17; and page 11, lines 14-28.

New claims 51 to 58 recite particular embodiments of the invention. Support for the new claims may be found in Sample 3 of Example 1 and Samples 12 and 13 of Example 4. The ranges recited in the claim are further supported in the specification at page 8, line 11; page 11, line 16; page 12, line 6; and original Claim 12.

CONCLUSION

For the reasons given above, it is respectfully submitted that the claims as presently amended are neither taught nor suggested by the art of record. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested at an early date.

Respectfully submitted,

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